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Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-02 /005 R

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NEA/RA:RCSEARING
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R 061756Z SEP 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 195659

FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 8488 ACTION SECSTATE 05 SEP

QUOTE

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 8488

AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: NARCOTICS FIU PROGRAM

REF: ISLAMABAD 8004

SUMMARY: USAID REP PAID COURTESY CALL ON S. RAOOF ALI, NEWLY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN, PNCB AND BRIEFLY TOUCHED ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES. BELIEVES RAOOF ALI WILL WORK FOR CLOSER TIES WITH POLICE AND WILL BE ABLE TO DEAL WITH OUTSTANDING MATTERS EFFECTIVELY. END SUMMARY.

1. USAID REP MATTHIAS MET WITH NEWLY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN, PNCB, SAHIBZADA RAOOF ALI, ON SEPT 3. RAOOF ALI TOOK OVER ON AUG 23 (SEE REFTEL), BUT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY LEFT FOR LAHORE TO TAKE CARE OF PERSONAL MATTERS AND TO VISIT THE LAHORE REGIONAL
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OFFICE. DISCUSSIONS WERE BRIEF AND CONFINED

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TO FOLLOWING POINTS:

FREQUENCIES: RAOOF ALI SAID, HE THOUGHT THIS
HAD BEEN RESOLVED BY HIS PREDECESSOR HUSAIN
BUT AS WE HAD NOT RECEIVED SUCH NOTICE HE MADE
A NOTE TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND LET US KNOW
WHAT IS THE SITUATION.
RAOOF ALI IS OF THE OPINION THAT PNCB
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM SHOULD HAVE BEEN LINKED
DIRECTLY WITH THE POLICE TELECOMMUNICATION
SYSTEM OPERATING ON SAME FREQUENCIES. THIS,
HE THOUGHT, WOULD RESULT IN MUCH BETTER
COORDINATION WITH POLICE AND WOULD ALLOW PNCB
TO FALL BACK ON POLICE RESOURCES WHENEVER NEEDED.
ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO CHANGE
PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS, HE ALSO AGREED THAT IF
HE WAS THINKING ABOUT WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE
POLICE IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE VALUABLE
FOR SOMEONE IN TROUBLE TO BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY
WITH A POLICE POST FOR HELP. HE WILL DISCUSS
THIS WITH JOE CORR AS PART OF OVERALL REVIEW.
IN CONNECTION WITH OVERALL REVIEW, HE
CONFIRMED LATE OCTOBER AS A GOOD DATE FOR
CORR TDY. THIS WILL GIVE HIM TIME TO VISIT
ALL THE REGIONAL OFFICES AND FORMULATE HIS OWN
VIEWS ON WHAT SHOULD BE DONE AND HOW TO PROCEED.

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET: RAOOF ALI SAID HE UNDERSTOOD IT HAD BEEN
APPROVED BY EVERYBODY IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND IS LYING ON
MINISTER'S DESK FOR FINAL APPROVAL, AND HE WAS GOING TO TRY
AND SEE HIM SEPT 4 TO GET HIS APPROVAL.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS: RAOOF ALI PLANS TO CALL ONE
EXPERT FROM DIG, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LAHORE,
TO LOOK AT WHAT IS COMING AND RECOMMEND HOW
TO HANDLE THE INSTALLATION, OPERATION AND
MAINTENANCE OF THE EQUIPMENT. HE WILL ALSO
RECOMMEND ONE EXPERT FOR LONG TERM ASSIGNMENT TO PNCB.

COMMENTS: RAOOF ALI, ON FIRST BLUSH, LOOKS
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LIKE SOMEONE WE CAN WORK WITH QUITE WELL.
BECAUSE OF HIS BACKGROUND AND FAMILY CONNECTIONS
HE WILL PROBABLY WORK AT A HIGHER LEVEL OF THE
BUREAUCRACY THAN DID MAIRAJ HUSAIN AND BECAUSE OF HIS
VERY CLOSE TIES WITH THE POLICE WILL TRY TO TIE PNCB
TO THE POLICE.
BYROADE UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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